A. CLASSIFICATION OF SUBJECT MATTER
IPC 7 C02F1/44 B01D61/04 B01D61/14

According to International Patent Classification (IPC) or to both national classification and IPC

B. FIELDS SEARCHED

Minimum documentation searched (classification system followed by classification symbols) IPC 7 CO2F BO1D

Documentation searched other than minimum documentation to the extent that such documents are included in the fields searched

Electronic data base consulted during the International search (name of data base and, where practical, search terms used)

EPO-Internal, PAJ, WPI Data

C. DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT

Y Further documents are listed in the continuation of box C.

| Category ° | Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages | Relevant to claim No. |
|------------|---|---|
| X A | US 6 120 688 A (DALY ET AL) 19 September 2000 (2000-09-19) cited in the application column 3, line 49 - column 7, line 15; figure 1 | 1,3, 7-12,26, 27,29 2,4-6, 13-25, |
| A | column 3, 11ne 34 - line 42 column 7, line 55 - column 8, line 27 PATENT ABSTRACTS OF JAPAN | 28,30 ⁻ 35 |
| ^ | vol. 2000, no. 20, 10 July 2001 (2001-07-10) å JP 2001 070967 A (ASAHI KASEI CORP), 21 March 2001 (2001-03-21) abstract | 1-35 |
| А | US 5 997 745 A (TONELLI ET AL) 7 December 1999 (1999-12-07) | |
| | -/ | |

| Special categories of cited documents: A' document defining the general state of the art which is not considered to be of particular relevance | "T" later document published after the International filing date or priority date and not in conflict with the application but clied to understand the principle or theory underlying the invention |
|--|---|
| *E* earlier document but published on or after the International filling date *I* document which may throw quotes on prictiply, causing) or document which may throw quotes on prictiply causing or distributed the published of the document citation or other special research (as specified). *C' document referring to an oral disclosure, use, exhibition or other means of the command | 24 document of particular relevance, the claimed Invention cannot be considered novel or most be considered to be violved an inventive step when the document is taken allow a formation of the considered to the considered novel or considered to the considered to t |
| Date of the actual completion of the international search 12 August 2005 | Date of malling of the International search report 24/08/2005 |
| Name and mailing address of the ISA European Patent Office, P.B. 5818 Patentlaan 2 NL – 2280 FV Fijswijk, Tel. (431-70) 340-2004, Tx. 31 651 epo nl, Fax: (431-70) 340-3016 | Authorized officer Assogna, R |

Patent family members are listed in annex.

| | | PCT/IB2005/051007 | | |
|------------|--|-------------------|-----------------------|--|
| | ation) DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT | | | |
| Category ° | Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages | | Relevant to claim No. | |
| 4 | US 5 490 939 A (GERIGK ET AL) 13 February 1996 (1996-02-13) | | | |
| - | | | | |
| | | | | |
| | | | | |
| | | | | |
| | | | | |
| | | | , | |
| | | | | |
| | | | | |
| | | | | |
| | | | | |
| | | | | |
| | | | | |

PCT/IB2005/051007

| | | | 1017 1520037 031007 | | |
|---|---|------------------|--|---|--|
| Patent document cited in search report | | Publication date | | Patent family member(s) | Publication date |
| US 6120688 | A | 19-09-2000 | AU AU CA WO DE EP HU PL TW | 743993 B2 6202498 A 2281889 A 9837950 A1 69829952 D1 0966319 A1 0000639 A2 335404 A1 409070 B | 14-02-2002 18-09-1998 03-09-1998 03-09-1998 02-06-2005 29-12-1999 28-06-2000 25-04-2000 21-10-2000 |
| JP 2001070967 | A | 21-03-2001 | NONE | | |
| US 5997745 | A | 07-12-1999 | WO Au Us | 0112303 A1 5274699 A 6120689 A | 22-02-2001 13-03-2001 19-09-2000 |
| US 5490939 | A | 13-02-1996 | DE AT CA DE DK EP ES JP | 4406952 A1 154337 T 2143563 A1 59500299 D1 675080 A2 2104435 T3 7289855 A | 07-09-1995 15-06-1997 04-09-1995 17-07-1997 15-12-1997 04-10-1997 07-11-1995 |